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FILED

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NEW JERSEY BOARD OF
CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

PETER M. STEINMETZ, D.C.
License No. MC 4854

TO PRACTICE CHIROPRACTIC
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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:
Administrative Action
:
CONSENT ORDER
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This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Chiropractic Examiners upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and the parties wishing to resolve this matter without further formal proceedings, hereby stipulate to the following findings of fact and conclusions of law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent, Peter M. Steinmetz, D.C., is a chiropractic physician in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
2. On December 14, 2005, Respondent was indicted and charged with obtaining possession of a Schedule III controlled dangerous substance, that is, Hydrocodone Bitartrate, by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception and subterfuge, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-13; and

with uttering to various on-line medical doctors, reports made so that they purported to be the acts of another who did not authorize the acts, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:21-1a(3).

(Copy of Indictment No. 05-12-01042-I attached hereto as Exhibit A.)

3. On October 17, 2005, Respondent admitted under oath to engaging in acts constituting the crimes which were subsequently charged in the aforesaid indictment in order to obtain Hydrocodone Bitartrate for his own use. (Transcription of taped statement to Branchburg Township Police attached hereto as Exhibit B.)

4. On or about January 30, 2006, Respondent agreed to a postponement of further proceedings on the aforesaid charges for the purpose of entering into Pretrial Intervention. (First Order of Postponement attached hereto as Exhibit C.)

5. Respondent's license to practice chiropractic in New Jersey expired due to non-renewal on August 31, 2003, and was administratively terminated pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1, on October 8, 2003.

6. Respondent continued to render chiropractic care to patients in New Jersey until at least April 17, 2006, without a license.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The aforesaid conduct provides grounds for the suspension of Respondent's license to practice chiropractic in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f), in that Respondent has engaged in acts constituting a crime involving moral turpitude and which relates adversely to the practice of chiropractic, that is, obtaining CDS by fraud.

2. The aforesaid conduct provides grounds for the suspension of Respondent's license to practice chiropractic in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), in that Respondent has engaged in professional misconduct as determined by the Board, by falsifying a medical record.

3. The aforesaid conduct provides grounds for the suspension of Respondent's license to practice chiropractic in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A 45:1-21(h), in that Respondent has engaged in the unlicensed practice of chiropractic proscribed by N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1(c), an Act administered by the Board.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 3 day of *November*, 2006

ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice chiropractic in the State of New Jersey be and hereby is suspended for a period of one (1) year.

2. Respondent is hereby reprimanded for his actions.

3. During the period of his suspension, Respondent shall successfully complete and unconditionally pass the ProBE (Professional Problem Based Ethics) course offered by The Ethics Group, 89 Summit Avenue, Suite 185, Summit, New Jersey 07901, or the PRIME (Professional Renewal in Medicine through Ethics) course offered by the Center for Continuing Education in the Health Professions at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, 97 Paterson Street, Room 124, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903. Documentation of the full and successful completion of the course shall be provided to the Board.

4. Respondent shall immediately contact the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey ("PAPNJ") and schedule an impairment evaluation by Louis E. Baxter, Sr., M. D. Respondent agrees to abide by the recommendations of Dr. Baxter to be set forth in a report of evaluation to be issued by PAPNJ. Respondent agrees to the release of that report to the Board, and waives his right of confidentiality therein for the use of the report by the Board in any action relating to his license to practice chiropractic in New Jersey. In the event that the PAPNJ recommends monitoring, therapy, or a practice limitation, Respondent agrees to enter into a consent order with the Board embodying such recommendations as a condition of reinstatement

and continued licensure. Respondent shall be responsible for the payment of all costs associated with the evaluations performed by PAPNJ.

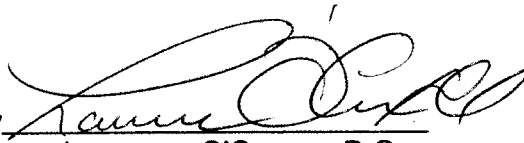
5. Prior to resuming active practice in New Jersey, Respondent shall be required to appear before the Board (or a committee thereof) to demonstrate his compliance with this Order and his fitness to practice. Any practice in this State prior to said appearance shall constitute grounds for a separate charge of unlicensed practice. In addition, the Board reserves the right to place restrictions on Respondent's practice should his license be reinstated.

6. The Directives of the Board applicable to any Chiropractic Board licensee who is suspended, revoked or whose surrender of licensure has been accepted are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein, whether or not they are attached hereto.

7. Failure to comply with any provisions of this Order may result in subsequent disciplinary proceedings for failure to comply with an Order of the Board.

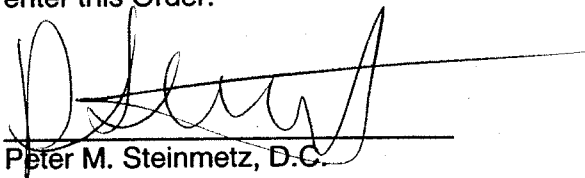
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

By



Lawrence O'Connor, D.C.
Board President

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.


Peter M. Steinmetz, D.C.